Road connectivity to places of cultural heritage

†2911. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are places of cultural heritage of world level in the country which are still not connected with road and Government are considering to link these places of cultural heritage with road very soon;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made with regard to the action taken/to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Development and maintenance of roads other than National Highways is a State subject. However, the Ministry of Tourism has recommended to the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways and State Governments to consider connecting World Heritage Sites and Buddhist sites with appropriate and good roads.

Public-private participation in tourism

2912. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to encourage public-private participation in tourism;

(b) if so, the details of the action plan;

(c) whether Government propose to introduce "visa-on-arrival" and "inner-line border permits" to boost tourism; and

(d) if so, the details of the action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) In order to encourage Public-Private Participation in tourism, the Ministry of Tourism has introduced a scheme during the Tenth Plan—'Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects' under which it offers assistance up to 25% of the project cost or Rs. 10 crore whichever is less for the projects like convention centres, golf courses, tourist trains etc. Another scheme called 'Incentives to Accommodation Infrastructure' provides one time capital grant of upto 10% of the total principal loan taken for construction of one, two and three star category of hotels.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.